

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- Claim 1 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 2 (Previously amended)
- Claim 3 (Cancelled)
- Claim 4 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 5 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 6 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 7 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 8 (Cancelled)
- Claim 9 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 10 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 11 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 12 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 13 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 14 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 15 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 16 (Cancelled)
- Claim 17 (Previously Amended)
- Claim 18 (Previously Amended)

Claim 19 (Previously Amended)
Claim 20 (Previously Amended)
Claim 21 (Previously Amended)
Claim 22 (Previously Amended)
Claim 23 (Previously Amended)
Claim 24 (Previously Amended)
Claim 25 (Previously Amended)
Claim 26 (Cancelled)
Claim 27 (Previously Amended)
Claim 28 (Original)
Claim 29 (Previously Amended)
Claim 30 (Previously Amended)
Claim 31 (Previously Amended)
Claim 32 (Previously Amended)

1. (Previously Amended)

A method of downloading information from the network to a client machine where the client machine is connected to the network by a data line, comprising the following steps:

- a) providing an option selection display screen for user preselection of options establishing priority criteria to be used in downloading of information to the client machine in anticipation of its presentation to the user;
- b) downloading of initial information from the network to the client machine;
- c) displaying in a screen separate from the option selection screen of the initial information on the client's machine by a browser;
- d) automatically checking of the initial information for the presence of links to other sets of information at a point no later than the display of the information in step b);
- e) automatically assigning of priorities to the links identified based on the options preselected by the user;
- f) automatically downloading to the client's machine during display of the initial information of the sets of information assigned to the links in accordance with the priorities of the sets of information.

2. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 1, including the following further steps:

g) selecting and displaying on the client's machine a set of information from step f);

h) repeating steps d) to f) of the method for this set of information.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 2, wherein the assigning of a priority includes expanding the links to include priority information provided by the author of the set of information concerned.

5. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 4, including the step of the option selection display screen providing the option of assigning priority to the links in a purely sequential order.

6. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 5, including the step of the option selection display screen providing the option of sequentially assigning of the priorities to the links by at least one of the options "from centre", "top-down" and "bottom-up".

7. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 6, including the steps of performing the assignment of priorities to the links by analysing user behaviour by means of a data mining program, storing all the sets of information downloaded from the network, or parts thereof, on the client's machine, using a data mining program for accessing this information and analysing it statistically, and creating a sequence of priorities for the links by using an add-on program or browser extension.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 7, including the step of providing the user with any one of the following user-specifiable options on the option selection display screen:

purely sequential downloading of links on a centre/top- down/bottom-up basis;

downloading of sets of information whose links include priorities down to a lowest priority which can be decided by the user;

following of a standard priority as a result of the entry of a key word onto the option selection screen;

assigning priorities as a result of analysis of user behaviour, set by means of the following options:

specification of a lowest probability to be specified by user;

calculation of changeover probability;

calculation of site-content probability.

10. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 9, including the step of selecting between allowing the user profile to automatically assign a priority to the options selected or permitting the assignment of the priority to be performed by the user.

11. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 10, wherein the information which is loaded in anticipation of use is stored in the client's RAM cache or hard-disk cache.

12. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 1, wherein steps d) to f) are performed by an add-on program or browser extension, the add-on program being installed on the client machine and communicating with the browser via an interface.

13. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 10, wherein the user profile is part of the browser extension or add-on program.

14. (Previously Amended)

The method of downloading information from a network to a client machine where communications between the client machine and the network are handled via a server which has a data line to the client and to the network, comprising the following steps:

- a) providing an option selection display screen for the user to preselect priority criteria for downloading of information onto the client's machine;
- b) downloading of initial information from the network to the server and, in a screen separate from the option selection screen, displaying the initial information on the client's machine by a browser;
- c) automatically checking the initial information represented in the server for the presence of links to other information at a point no later than the completion of the display of the information on the client's machine in step b);
- d) automatically assigning in the server of priorities to the links identified; and

- e) automatically downloading to the server of the sets of information assigned to the links in accordance with the priorities of the links.

15. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 14, including the following further steps:

- f) selecting and displaying on the client's machine of information which was downloaded in anticipation in step e); and
- g) automatically repeating of steps c) to e) of the method for this information.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 14, wherein the assignment of a priority by expanding the links to include priority information provided by the author of the set of information concerned.

18. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 14, including the step of having the option selection display screen provide for assigning priority to the links found in a purely sequential order.

19. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 18, including the step of having the option selection display screen provide for sequentially assigning of the priorities to the links by at least one of the options "from centre", "top-down" and "bottom-up".

20. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 19, including the steps of performing the assignment of priorities to the links found is performed by analysing user behaviour by means of a data mining program, storing all the information downloaded from the network, or parts thereof, on the client's machine using a data mining program accessing this information and creating a sequence of priorities for the links found.

21. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 20, including the step of allowing the operator of the server to set priority options by means of a user profile established by the data mining program.

22. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 21, including the step of providing the user on the option selection display screen with one or more of the following user-specifiable options:

purely sequential downloading of links on a centre/top-down/bottom-up basis;

downloading of sets of information whose links include priorities down to a lowest priority which can be decided by the user;

following of a standard priority as a result of the entry of a key word into the option selection display screen;

assigning of priorities as a result of analysis of user behaviour, set by means of the following options:

specification of a lowest probability to be specified by user;

calculation of changeover probability;

calculation of site-content probability.

23. (Previously Amended)

The method according to claim 22, including the step of selecting between allowing the user profile to automatically assign a priority to the options or permitting the priority to be performed by the user using the option selection display screen.

24. (Previously Amended)

A computer program on a computer useable medium for downloading information from the network to a client machine where the client machine is connected to the network by a data line, comprising:

- a) software for providing an option selection display screen for the machine user to preselect options establishing criteria for downloading information onto the client's machine in anticipation of display by the user;
- b) software for downloading of initial information from the network to the client;
- c) software for displaying of the information on the client's machine on a screen separate from the by a browser;
- d) software for automatically checking of the information displayed for the presence of links expanded by the priority information to other sets of information at a point no later than the display of the information in step b);
- e) software for automatically assigning of priorities to the links identified;
- f) software for automatically downloading to the client's machine of the sets of information assigned to the links in accordance with the priorities of the sets of information.

25. (Previously Amended)

The computer program according to claim 24, including:

g) software for selecting and displaying on the client's machine a set of information from step f);

h) software for repeating steps d) to f) of the method for this set of information.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Amended)

The computer program according to claim 24, including software for the option selection display screen for assigning priority to the links in a purely sequential order.

28. (Original)

The computer program according to claim 27, including software for sequentially assigning of the priorities to the links by at least one of the options "from centre", "top-down" and "bottom-up".

29. (Previously Amended)

The computer program according to claim 29, including software for performing the assignment of priorities to the links by analysing user behaviour by means of a data mining program, storing all the sets of information downloaded from the network, or parts thereof, on the client's

machine, using a data mining program for accessing this information and analysing it statistically, and creating a sequence of priorities for the links by using an add-on program or browse extension.

30. (Previously Amended)

The according to claim 29, including software for allowing the user to set priority options by means of a user profile determined by the mining program.

31. (Previously Amended)

The computer program according to claim 30, including software for the option selection display screen for providing the user with one or more of the following user-specifiable options:

purely sequential downloading of links on a centre/top- down/bottom-up basis;

downloading of sets of information whose links include priorities down to a lowest priority which can be decided by the user;

following of a standard priority as a result of the entry of a code word;

assigning priorities as a result of analysis of user behaviour, set by means of the following options:

specification of a lowest probability to be specified by user;

calculation of changeover probability;

calculation of site-content probability.

32. (Previously Amended)

The software according to claim 31, including software for selecting between allowing the user profile to automatically assign a priority to the options selected or permitting the assignment of the priority to be performed by the user using the option selection display screen.